

(19)



Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
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(11)

EP 0 827 340 A3

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(88) Date of publication A3:
06.10.1999 Bulletin 1999/40

(51) Int Cl.⁶: **H04N 7/173**, H04N 5/00,
H04N 7/16

(43) Date of publication A2:
04.03.1998 Bulletin 1998/10

(21) Application number: **97306627.7**

(22) Date of filing: **29.08.1997**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
**AT BE CH DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU MC
NL PT SE**

(30) Priority: **30.08.1996 JP 23002696**

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(54) Terminal apparatus and method for achieving interactive operations

(57) A terminal apparatus is provided for displaying an image by reproducing a piece of image information and for interactively changing the image using navigation information. The image is a moving picture, a still picture, or a mixture of them. The image information and the navigation information together are broadcast by a broadcasting station to the terminal apparatus. The navigation information indicates a plurality pieces of link-target image information. The cache unit stores a pair of image information and navigation information. The reproducing unit reproduces the image information. The monitoring unit monitors whether an operator has performed a certain operation responding to the image displayed. The receiving unit, before the operator performs the certain operation, receives a plurality pieces of im-

age information which have possibility of being displayed and a plurality pieces of corresponding navigation information based on the navigation information, and stores the plurality pieces of image information and navigation information in the cache unit. The specifying unit specifies a piece of link-target image information based on the certain operation. The identifying unit identifies the piece of link-target image information as a piece of image information. The first controlling unit reads the piece of link-target image information and instructs the reproducing unit to reproduce the piece of link-target image information, and instructs the receiving unit to receive other plurality pieces of image information and navigation information based on a piece of navigation information corresponding to the link-target image information identified by the identifying unit.

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 17 August 1999	Examiner Sindic, G
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 03 82 (P04.001)



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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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